

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MADRID 06994 091913Z

42

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 051620

R 091230Z OCT 75
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3214
INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

S E C R E T MADRID 6994

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, PFOR, MO
SUBJ: U.S. TANKS AND MUSLO PERSONNEL TO OUJDA IN NOVEMBER?

REF: RABAT 4807 (EXDIS)

I THINK THAT THE HIGHLY VISIBLE LOAN OF U.S. TANK TRANS-
PORTERS FROM EUCOM TO MOVE MOROCCAN TANKS OUT OF CASABLANCA,
EVEN THOUGH THEY BE FARTHER AWAY FROM THE SAHARA, WILL NOT
BE EASILY PORTRAYED AS THE ACTION OF A COUNTRY THAT IS NEUTRAL
ON THE SAHARA ISSUE. AS RABAT'S MESSAGE SUGGESTS, THIS
DEPLOYMENT MIGHT BE INTENDED TO FORESTALL ALGERIAN REACTION
TO MOROCCAN MILITARY ACTION AGAINST THE SPANISH IN THE SAHARA.
OUR LONG TERM MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP WITH MOROCCO IS
OBVIOUSLY IMPORTANT, BUT I WONDER IF IT IS AS IMPORTANT AS
MAINTAINING A DEMONSTRABLE POSTURE OF NUETRALITY BETWEEN SPAIN
AND MOROCCO AT THIS MOMENT OF TENSION. CAN'T WE DRAG OUR
HEELS ON THIS WHILE WE SEE WHETHER EFFORTS TO REDUCE TENSION
SUCCEED?
STABLER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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